

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

IN HONOR OF DINA MATOS
MCGREEVEY, RECIPIENT OF THE
HISPANIC AMERICAN GOOD
SCOUT AWARD

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 13, 2003

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the outstanding accomplishments of Mrs. Dina Matos McGreevey, who was honored on February 7th at the Hispanic American Good Scout Award Dinner at the Robert Treat Hotel in Newark, New Jersey.

The First Lady of New Jersey, Mrs. Matos McGreevey has been an exceptional member of her community and a true leader for New Jersey. Currently the executive director of the Columbus Hospital Foundation in Newark, Mrs. Matos McGreevey has worked to create programs such as the Senior Health Improvement Program, which provides free educational programs and screening for New Jersey seniors. As a member of the Portuguese American Congress of New Jersey and former president of the Portuguese American Congress—Continuing Political Committee, she organized voter registration drives and assisted thousands to become American citizens and registered voters.

Dina Matos McGreevey continues to demonstrate her compassion for improving New Jersey's communities. She is currently a trustee of the Ironbound Association, the Salvation Army Ironbound Boys' and Girls' Clubs and Senior Center Advisory Board, and the Women's Auxiliary of Columbus Hospital. Mrs. Matos McGreevey is also a participant in United Way's Celebrity Reading Program and is an honorary chair of the Special Olympics Complex Committee, the Drumthwacket Foundation, the Bernard W. Gimble Multiple Sclerosis Comprehensive Care Center Annual Fundraiser, and D.A.R.E.

Mrs. Matos McGreevey has served as commissioner of the Planning Board of the City of Elizabeth and treasurer of the Portuguese American Scholarship Foundation and the Northern New Jersey Maternal/Child Health Consortium's Planning Committee, and has been a member of the New Jersey Health Care Public Relations and Marketing Association. She is a fellow of the United Way of Essex and West Hudson Project Leadership Class of 1999.

Dina Matos McGreevey and Governor James E. McGreevey are the proud parents of Jacqueline Matos McGreevey.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Mrs. Dina Matos McGreevey for her exemplary service and dedication to the people and state of New Jersey.

THE GOOD SAMARITAN TAX ACT

HON. AMO HOUGHTON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 13, 2003

Mr. HOUGHTON. Mr. Speaker, today I am pleased to join my colleague from Georgia, JOHN LEWIS, in introducing the "Good Samaritan Tax Act", a bill that has been introduced in three previous Congresses. Former Congressman Tony Hall (OH), now our Ambassador to the United Nations Agencies for Food and Agriculture, who originally initiated this proposal, was a cosponsor of the prior bills and the leading advocate for feeding the less fortunate.

The purpose of the bill is to help meet the demand for food for the needy. The end of the economic boom has increased the need for additional resources to feed the hungry. In fact, as more and more citizens are removed from the welfare rolls, or lose their jobs, many turn to food banks for help.

The bill would increase the incentives for restaurants, farms and other businesses in the food industry to donate food to food banks, homeless shelters and other charitable organizations. The Internal Revenue Code actually discourages contributions because of the uncertainty regarding the tax treatment of donations of food as compared to donations of other inventory. The bill has been designed to correct that deficiency.

We believe this bill would remove the uncertainty and provide the necessary incentive for businesses to increase their food donations. This would be accomplished by adding a provision to Section 170(e) of the Code that would indicate that the fair market value of donated food is determined, (1) without regard to internal policies, lack of market, or similar circumstances, whether the food cannot or will not be sold, and (2) if applicable, by taking into account the price at which similar products are sold by the taxpayer at the time of contribution. These have been points of controversy with the Internal Revenue Service, causing uncertainty as well as disincentives to incur the administrative and other costs necessary for the proper handling and preservation of food being donated. In addition, Section 170(e) would be amended to include businesses in addition to C corporations, as the current law provides.

We hope our colleagues will join us in cosponsoring this legislation.

CONDEMNING ANTI-SEMITISM

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 13, 2003

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to introduce, along with my colleague Representative CARDIN, Representative

WOLF, Representative HOYER, Representative LANTOS, Representative WAMP, Representative SLAUGHTER, Representative ADERHOLT and Representative HASTINGS, this resolution expressing the sense of the Congress that the sharp escalation of anti-Semitism, including violence, throughout the region of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, OSCE, is of serious concern to the U.S. Congress and the American people. We should make a concerted effort in our respective countries to end this disturbing trend.

Anti-Semitism is a disease that has bedeviled previous generations of Jews throughout the centuries and formed a black spot on human history. As the 20th century witnessed the nadir of extreme violence against the Jewish community and their institutions, we must take extraordinary steps to ensure this plague does not infect the 21st century to contaminate future generations. Yet our work is cut out for us, as this past year Europe witnessed a profound increase in vandalism against Jewish cemeteries, synagogues and cultural property, as well as mob assaults, fire bombings and gunfire. This year already a Jewish rabbi was stabbed twice in his Paris synagogue by an assailant. Thankfully, he was released from the hospital the same day. Certainly our own country is not immune, as acts of vandalism and violence continue to sporadically occur. As these incidents made graphically clear, silence is not an option when we are witnesses to insensitivity and violence.

The Helsinki Commission, which I co-chair and on which Mr. CARDIN serves has taken the lead in voicing concern and working for real change. On May 22, 2002, the Commission held a hearing to raise specific attention to the growing problem of anti-Semitism violence in the OSCE region. From that hearing a number of initiatives emerged. At the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly Annual Session in Berlin last July, I introduced and successfully secured unanimous approval of a resolution denouncing anti-Semitism and calling for all OSCE governments to do more. Mr. Speaker, for the RECORD, I submit the text of the OSCE PA resolution.

In addition, the U.S. delegation cosponsored an unprecedented special session with the German delegation to further discuss the alarming trend with our fellow parliamentarians. In December, the Commission co-hosted here in Washington a parliamentary forum on anti-Semitism with German parliamentarians, also attended by a prominent member of the Senate of Canada, Jerry Grafstein. At the conclusion of this event, myself and the German co-chair, Gert Weisskirchen, signed a letter of intent highlighting specific areas for further work and pledging to enlist the support of other parliamentarians from OSCE participating States. I have submitted a copy of the letter of intent, for the RECORD.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to introduce this resolution, and I am eager for the House to go on record in support, making sure both the Congress and our government are doing everything possible to see an end to this

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